A NEW GRASSHOPPER MOUSE FROM NEW MEXICO.

BY SAMUEL N. RHOADS.

Among the ten species and races of short-tailed mice of the genus *Onychomys* known to inhabit the United States we find a surprisingly small amount of color variation, or of difference in size and external proportions, from the type of the genus, *O. leucogaster*, from Dakota. The short, nearly unicolor, blunt tail, rounded, microtine ears, dense, silky pelage and buffy gray colors are more or less characteristic of all the species ranging from the Saskatchewan to the Mexican boundary.

A careful study of their cranial characters is thus necessary in determining their relationships.

A specimen of *Onychomys* in superficial appearance almost identical with *leucogaster*, was recently forwarded to the writer from Mesilla, Dona Ana Co., New Mexico, by Mr. T. D. A. Cockerell, for identification. Four specimens of *Onychomys* from Clapham, Union Co., New Mexico, prove to be identical with the Mesilla specimen and on comparison with their nearest geographical allies, *leucogaster*, *brevicaudus* and *longipes* prove to belong to a distinct and undescribed species. It may be known by the following diagnosis:—

Onychomys arcticeps sp. nov. Long-Nosed Grasshopper Mouse.

"*Onychomys leucogaster* subsp.?"; Allen, Bull. Amer. Mus. N. H., 1893, p. 74. "*Onychomys leucogaster brevicauda*"; Allen, ibid, 1896, p. 253.

Type No. 1,529, ad. ♂, col. of S. N. Rhoads, taken by E. E. Thompson at Clapham, Union Co., New Mexico, Nov. 7th, 1893.

General characters.—About the size of *leucogaster*, with slightly longer tail and ears, deeper fulvous (less gray) coloration above, narrower cranium, and long, slender rostrum.

Color.—Above uniform ochraceous buff,[1] heavily lined with blackish, lightest along sides, blackest on top of head and around eyes. A blackish oval spot on upper, outer margins of ears. Tail white, with an ill-defined, narrow stripe of blackish-buff on superior proximal two-thirds. Color of sides at the white margin and on lower rump and thighs deeper ochraceous buff. Lower parts tawny white as contrasted with the clear, pure white of *leucogaster*.

[1] Ridgway's Nomen. of Colors, Pl. V, No. 10.

Cranial characters.—Skull viewed from above (contrasted with *leucogaster*), long and narrow, the brain case high, compressed, elongate, ovate; the rostrum much narrowed and the nasals slender and projecting decidedly beyond the anterior tips of the premaxillaries. No distinct supraorbital bead as contrasted with *longipes* from Texas. Palate ending posteriorly with a convex edge as in *torridus*, as contrasted with the strongly developed median spine of *leucogaster*.

Measurements (of type).—Total length 150 mm.; tail vertebræ, 45; hind foot, 21; ear, from crown (dry), 11. Average of four topotypes, in same order as above: 152—46—22. Skull: total length, 28.6; nasal length, 11.3; zygomatic expansion; 14.7; mastoid expansion, 12; interorbital constriction, 4.7; length of mandible 15.3.